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REFERENCE:

ATTACHMENT TO K-9597
19 MAY 1966
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CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY
THAI NGUYEN/KEP RAIL LINE UNDER CONSTRUCTION
NORTH VIETNAM1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS CONTINUING RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION
ACTIVITY ALONG THE THAI NGUYEN/KEP RAIL LINE.

2. LOCATION:

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IS TAKING PLACE ON THE 31-MILE RAIL LINK
BETWEEN THE INDUSTRIAL CITY OF THAI NGUYEN AND KEP, FROM 2128N 10611E
TO 2131N 10607E.

3. REMARKS:

THIS RAILROAD, WHEN COMPLETED, WILL PROVIDE A MORE DIRECT ROUTE
BETWEEN CHINA AND THE THAI NGUYEN IRON-STEEL COMBINE, THEREBY TYING
THE ECONOMIES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES MORE CLOSELY TOGETHER. THE
RAILROAD WILL ALSO FACILITATE THE MOVEMENT OF COKING COAL FROM COMMUNIST
CHINA TO THAI NGUYEN AND PROVIDE AN ALTERNATE TO THE HANOI-DONG DANG
LINE, SOUTH OF KEP.

4. MISSION READOUT:

REVEALS THE THAI NGUYEN/KEP RAIL
LINE UNDER CONSTRUCTION BETWEEN 2128N 10611E AND 2131N 10607E. THE
RAIL BED IS IN AN ADVANCED STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION WITH A MAJOR PORTION
OF THE GRADING COMPLETED, BUT NO BALLAST OR TRACKAGE HAS BEEN LAID.

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and declassification

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TWO BRIDGES, EACH WITH THREE SPANS, ARE NOTED TO BE UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT 2129N 10610E AND 2130N 10607E (LATTER SHOWN ON GRAPHIC). BOTH BRIDGES HAVE CONCRETE ABUTMENTS AND TWO CONCRETE PIERS IN LATE STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION; HOWEVER, THE BRIDGE SPANS ARE NOT IN PLACE ON EITHER BRIDGE. TWO BRIDGES, EACH WITH SINGLE SPANS, ARE OBSERVED TO BE UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT 2130N 10618E AND 2129N 10608E. BOTH BRIDGES PRESENTLY CONSIST OF ONLY LARGE CONCRETE ABUTMENTS AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION ACCESS BRIDGES. FORMS FOR POURING CONCRETE ARE ALSO NOTED. CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL IS OBSERVED STACKED IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA OF BOTH BRIDGES AND NUMEROUS HAND CARTS ARE LOCATED NEARBY.

AT LEAST TWENTY COMPLETED CULVERTS/SMALL BRIDGES AND NINE CULVERTS/SMALL BRIDGES UNDER CONSTRUCTION ARE OBSERVED ALONG THE THAI NGUYEN/KEP RAIL LINE BETWEEN 2128N 10611E AND 2131N 10607E.

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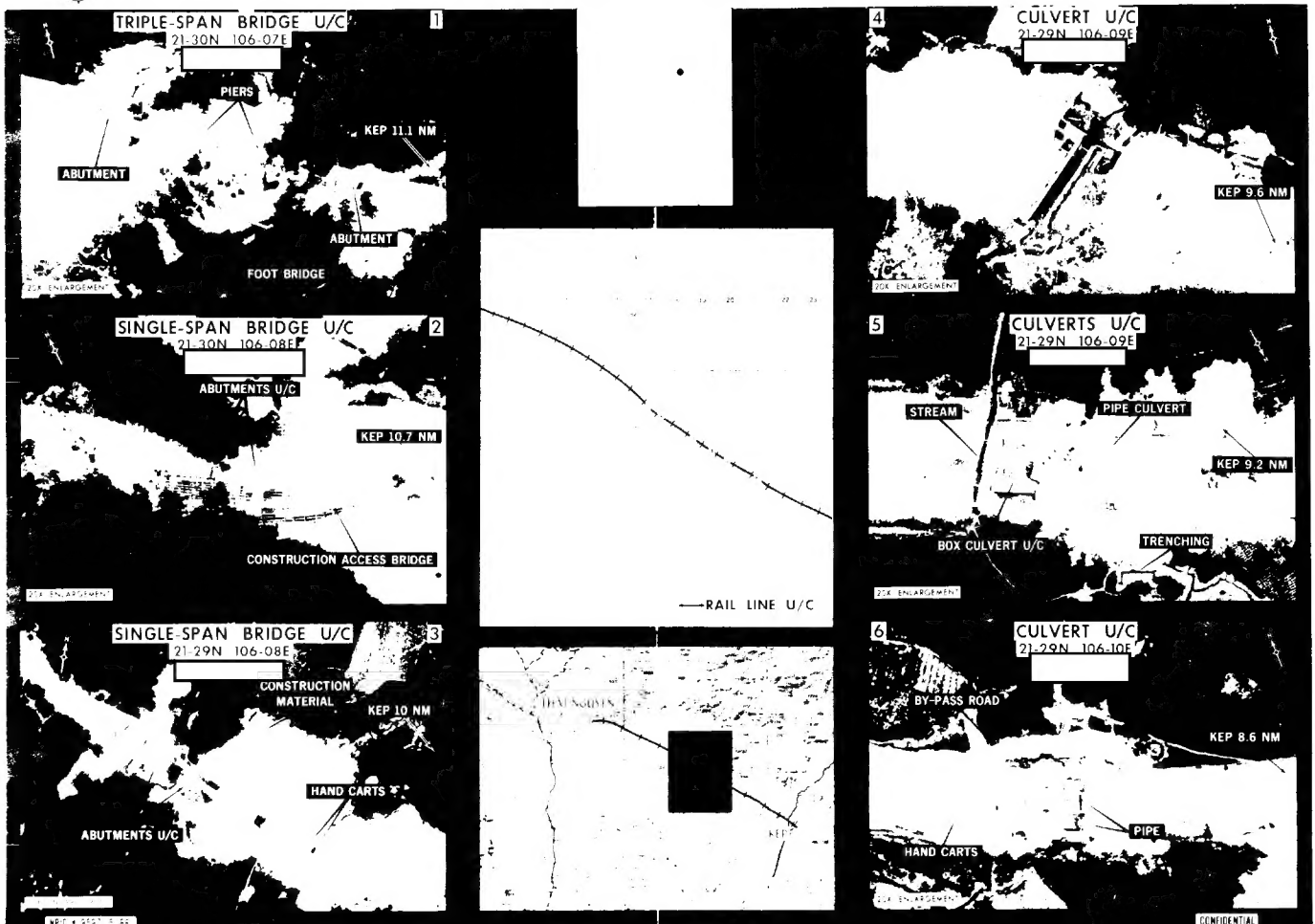
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